



09/960,283.003256.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3/4/04

In re Application of:)
TAKEHIKO NAKAI) Examiner: Leonidas Boutsikaris
Application No.: 09/960,283) Group Art Unit: 2872
Filed: September 24, 2001)
For: DIFFRACTIVE OPTICAL ELEMENT)
AND OPTICAL SYSTEM HAVING)
THE SAME) January 20, 2004

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 18, 2003, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) being submitted herewith, Applicant's respectfully request that the above-identified application be amended as follows. The claim amendments are reflected in the listing that begins at page 2. The Remarks begin at page 8.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

January 20, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

PETER G. THURLOW, Reg. No. 47,138

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Peter G. Thurlow

Signature

January 20, 2004

Date of Signature

Match and Return